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Regulatory Affairs Manager State Regulation

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November 25, 2013

Steve Olea, Director Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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DOCKETED BY



RE:

Self-Certification of Environmental Compatibility for the Q43 500kV Transmission Line and Switchyard Interconnection Project, Decision No. 71281 Docket No. L-00000D-09-0280-00146 & L-00000JJ-09-0279-00145

Pursuant to Decision No. 71281, dated October 7, 2009, Condition No. 16, Arizona Public Service Company files this self-certification letter and documentation for the Q43 500kV Transmission Line and Switchyard Interconnection Project.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact me at (602)250-2661.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Johnson

JJ/cd Attachment

cc: Docket Control

Brian Bozzo

John Foreman, Arizona Power Plant & Line Siting Committee Leisa Brug, Arizona Commerce Authority – Energy Office Sandra Fabritz-Whitney, Arizona Department of Water Resources



# Q43 Hoodoo Wash 500-kV Transmission Line and Interconnection Project

Docket Nos.
L-00000D-09-0280-00146 and L-00000JJ09-0279-00145
Arizona Corporation Commission
Decision No. 71281

Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance

December 2013

# Arizona Public Service Q43 Hoodoo Wash 500-kV Transmission Line and Interconnection Project

# Summary of Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance

# **Introduction:**

Arizona Public Service Company (APS) submits the following self-certification documentation pursuant to Condition 16 of the Q43 Hoodoo Wash 500-kV Transmission Line and Interconnection Project, Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Case Nos. 145 and 146, Docket Nos. L-00000D-09-0280-00146 and L-00000JJ-09-0279-00145, Decision No. 71281 (October 07, 2009).

Construction activities to interconnect Case No. 145 with the Agua Caliente site were completed in 2011. APS has not yet begun construction on the remaining portion of this project.

The following Condition Table lists all of the requirements and the status of compliance activities.

#### Arizona Public Service

# Summary of Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance

Q43 Hoodoo Wash 500-kV Transmission Line and Interconnection Project (Case 145 and 146)

# **Condition 1**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
The Applicant shall obtain all required approvals and permits necessary to construct the Project.	A summary of permits and approvals is included with this filing.

# **Condition 2**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
The Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable statutes, ordinances, master plans and regulations of the State of Arizona, the County of Yuma, the United States, and any other governmental entities having jurisdiction.	existing standards, regulations, and ordinances where

# **Condition 3**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
This authorization to construct the facilities necessary to interconnect the proposed Agua Caliente solar project (Case #145) shall expire in 7 years. The authorization to construct the remainder of the facilities associated with this Project shall expire fifteen (15) years from the date the Certificate is approved by the Commission. However, prior to expiration, the Applicant or its assignees may request that the Commission extend this time limitation.	interconnection with the Agua Caliente solar project (Case #145) is complete. Authorization to construct the

# **Condition 4**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to identify and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio signals from operation of the transmission lines and related facilities addressed in this Certificate. The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five years of all complaints of radio interference attributable to operation, together with the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include notations on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained.	APS standard practice includes tracking and responding to complaints of interference with radio and television signals as they are submitted to APS.

# **Condition 5**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
To the extent applicable, the Applicant shall comply with the notice and salvage requirements of the Arizona Native Plant Law (A.R.S. §§ 3-901, et seq.) and shall, to the extent feasible, minimize the destruction of native plants during Project construction.	Native Plant Law, where applicable.

# **Condition 6**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-844, if any archaeological, paleontological or historical site or object that is at least fifty years old is discovered on state, county or municipal land during plan-related activities, the person	

in charge shall promptly report the discovery to the Director of the Arizona State Museum, and in consultation with the Director, shall immediately take all reasonable steps to secure and maintain the preservation of the discovery. If human remains and/or funerary objects are encountered during the course of any ground-disturbing activities relating to the development of the subject property, Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and notify the Director of the Arizona State Museum, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-865, and any appropriate federal agency.

#### **Condition 7**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
The Applicant shall design the transmission lines to incorporate reasonable measures to mitigate impacts to raptors.	

#### **Condition 8**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
dulled surfaces for transmission line structures.	APS standard design practices include the use of non- specular and dulled surfaces for transmission structures.

#### **Condition 9**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
	(Case #145) is complete; construction for the remainder of the facilities is not complete as of November 1, 2013. However, activities related to this Condition will be reported, if applicable, in a future self-

# **Condition 10**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
Before construction on this Project may commence, the Applicant must file a construction mitigation and restoration plan ("Plan") with ACC Docket Control. Where practicable, the Plan shall specify that the Applicant use existing roads for construction and access, minimize impacts to wildlife, minimize vegetation disturbance outside of the Project right-ofway, and revegetate, unless waived by the landowner, native areas following construction disturbance.	

# **Condition 11**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
The Applicant shall provide copies of this Certificate to the Yuma County Department of Development Services, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Arizona State Land Department and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.	copy of this Certificate to the Yuma County Department of Development Services, the State Historic

#### **Condition 12**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
Applicant will follow the latest Western Electricity	APS standard design practice follows the Western
Coordinating Council North American Electric Reliability	Electricity Coordinating Council/North American Electric

Corporation Planning standards as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and National Electrical Safety Code construction standards.

Reliability Corporation Planning standards as approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the National Electrical Safety Code construction standards.

# **Condition 13**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
Within 120 days of the Commission Order granting this Certificate, Applicant will erect and maintain at the site a sign of not less than 4' x 8' advising:  (a) That the site has been approved for the construction of Project facilities;  (b) The expected date of completion of the Project facilities;  (c) A phone number for public information regarding the Project;  (d) The name of the Project;  (e) The name of the Applicant; and  (f) The website of the Project.	APS has complied with this Condition by posting a sign at the Project site. This was reported in the 2010 self-certification filing.

# **Condition 14**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance
With respect to the Project, Applicant shall participate in good faith in state and regional transmission study forums to coordinate transmission expansion plans related to the Project and to resolve transmission constraints in a timely manner.	APS coordinates its transmission planning with other transmission providers and stakeholders in the Desert Southwest, and the Western Interconnection as a whole, through its active participation in the Southwest Area Transmission (SWAT) planning group, membership in WestConnect, membership in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) and participation in the WECC Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and its Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TAS).

# **Condition 15**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	phase of the Project. APS will comply with	

# **Condition 16**

Certificate Condition	Action of Compliance	
The Applicant shall submit a self-certification letter annually, identifying progress made with respect to each condition contained in the Certificate, including which conditions have been met. Each letter shall be submitted to ACC Docket Control on December 1 beginning in 2010. Attached to each certification letter shall be documentation explaining how compliance with each condition was achieved. Copies of each letter along with the corresponding documentation shall be submitted to the Arizona Attorney General and Department of Commerce Energy Office. The requirement for the self-certification shall expire on the date the Project is placed into operation.	Compliance with this Condition is evidenced by the submission of this filing.	

# **Condition 1**

The Applicant shall obtain all required approvals and permits necessary to construct the Project.

# **Compliance**

As of November 1, 2013, APS has applied for the following permits and approvals associated with the Hoodoo Wash (Q43) 500-kV Transmission Line and Interconnection Project. The following table lists the status of these permits or approvals.

Issuing/Approving Agency	Туре	Application/Approval Status
Union Pacific Rail Road	Aerial Crossing	Complete July 2010
Yuma County	Highway Crossing	Complete 10/26/2011